

Countywide Community Forums – Advisory Steering Committee Meeting

Meeting Notes

June 3, 2009

Diane	Douglas	City Club of Seattle
Linda	Ridge	King County Superior Court
Bruce	Hilyer	King County Superior Court
Daniel	Church	Bastyr University
Angela	Kolczynski	King County Council
Seth	Grande	King County Council
Michael	Jacobson	King County OSPPM
Sara	Niegowski	Issaquah School District
Susan	Hildreth	The Seattle Public Library
Jeff	McMorris	King County Council
Michael	Walker	The Art Institute of Seattle
Rachel	Solemsaas	Bellevue College
Elizabeth	Pluhta	South Seattle Community College
Sue	Rahr	King County Sherriff's Office
Richard	Bonewits	Greater Maple Valley Area Council
Steve	Heister	Greater Maple Valley Area Council
Bob	Zappone	King County Executive's Office
Michael	Kerns	Seattle University
Larry	Evans	King County Council
Holly	Ferguson	Seattle Schools
Dick	Spady	Countywide Community Forums
John	Spady	Countywide Community Forums
Jim	Spady	Countywide Community Forums
Laura	Ochoa	King County Auditor's Office
Chantal	Stevens	King County Auditor's Office, Countywide Community Forums
Carrie	Shaw	Countywide Community Forums
Cheryle	Broom	King County Auditor's Office

Dick Spady opened the meeting with a warm welcome to all participants.

Cheryle Broom outlined the role of the Auditor's Office in selecting the topic and assuring that the process is fair and even-handed. She emphasized the commitment of King County to public engagement and stated that the vision of the King County Council, as outlined in the Performance and Accountability Act is to develop a comprehensive performance management system that links priorities, citizen input and performance measures to a countywide strategic plan. The Countywide Community Forums are consistent with and instrumental to that vision. She thanked Dick Spady for its commitment to public engagement and his support of the program.

John Spady summarized the history of the program, first started as Citizen Initiative 24, then unanimously voted into law by the King County Council in September 2007. There are currently over 1,700 registered citizen councilors.

Jim Spady reviewed the previous three rounds of forums. Round 1 was *Transportation – Public Priorities, Choices and Funding* and resulted in 114 forums

attended by 549 councilors. Round 2 was *Citizen Priorities for County Government: Strategic and Budget Options* and resulted in 58 forums and 406 responses. Round 3 on *Values & Performance of King County Government* is currently on-going until June 22.

Chantal Stevens and John Spady facilitated the topic discussion. During an initial discussion on how to engage the community more broadly, the following suggestions were offered:

- Engage the Unincorporated Area Council.
- Show results / demonstrate that the officials listen.
- Don't be overly dependent on computer technology.
- Don't wait for people to come to the forums; go to the people.
- Reach out to grassroots organizations.

Next, each participant was encouraged to propose topics for the next round of forums and then to vote on the topics. The results of this exercise are as follow:

Public safety (broad)	25
Court system/criminal justice	10
Green economy (KC role): jobs, technology, equity	7
Law and Justice	6
Health care	6
Workforce development	6
Access to justice/civil court	5
Mobility – services, transportation, technology	5
Health: education/prevention/wellness	4
Privatization/ managed competition	3
Healthcare/transportation/housing	2
Economic challenges	2
Inter-jurisdictional cooperation	1
Homelessness	1
Role for King County in economic development	1
Improve communication within King County	0
Education	0
Transportation - mass transit	0
Emergency preparedness	0
Public safety - efficiencies	0

The King County Auditor's Office will review the recommendations of the committee through a consultative process that ensures that the topic is not only interesting and relevant, but also useful to policy makers. The Auditor will select the topic before the end of June. The Coordinators will then develop the forum materials during July and August and the forums will happen during a 4 week participation window starting in September 09.

For more information on the program, the legislation, previous forums, including the current on-going round of forums and the role of the Advisory Steering Committee, visit the Auditor's Countywide Community Forums pages at <http://www.kingcounty.gov/operations/auditor/communityforums.aspx>.

Thank you for your participation.